

SHINABERRY – SHINABARGER FAMILY HISTORY



My mother and her fellow researchers of the “Dozen Ss” began looking for answers to our family history as early as 1962.¹ At least 3 decades of intense research followed. They never gave up hope for finding the answers to our early Shinabarger family history. Key questions remained:

- 1. Who was the Shinabarger patriarch?*
- 2. Were the various spellings, or the Dozen Ss, of the Shinabarger surname somehow related to each other?*
- 3. Who was the wife of John Shinabarger 1764 and mother of his 8 children?*

Since the 1990s, I have continued the family research. Increased availability of records, internet, travel, and DNA has allowed deeper research and the correction of early errors. Perhaps the most exciting discovery has been the name of my 5X great grandfather. However, each discovery also has the capability of creating new questions.

Genealogy is a never-ending search. But as it was said: “The truth is out there.” What generally follows is a warning: “But so are the lies.”

Eventually, I need to accept the fact that I may have found most of the available records. Availing myself of present-day on-line research and genealogy sites, extensive DNA testing of a score of relatives and comparing DNA with thousands of others, combined with boots-on-the-ground research, I am reaching the conclusion that this may be the closest I will come to explaining the history of our Shinabarger family.

The past seven summers I have driven the settlements, farms and cemeteries of ancestors. Road trips have the advantage of disclosing the paths our ancestors traveled in their migration across America. I have driven the majority of the paths my Shinabarger family traveled, visited the towns where they were born, married, raised families, and were buried.

I am especially pleased that I have a dedicated fellow researcher in my 1C1R Kipp Shinabarger. His interest in family history and excellent research encourages me that the effort to answer our key questions will continue.

¹ Early researchers of the Dozen Ss: Vera Shinabarger Bunyard of Indiana, 3X great-granddaughter of John Shinabarger 1764; Mary Keel Lundstrom of Indiana, 2X great-granddaughter of John Shinabarger 1764; Marjorie Perkins Carb Jr. of Michigan, 3X great-granddaughter of Michael Shanabarger and Mary Long; Wilfarene Lane Henderson of Texas, 2X great-granddaughter of Michael Shinaberry and Catherine Barnes; Dorothy Wiedenback Shinaberry of New York, husband the 3X great-grandson of Michael Shinaberry and Catherine Barnes; Lily Shinabarger Jackson of Indiana, 2X great-granddaughter of John Shinabarger 1764; Florence Paugh Dyke of Virginia, 2X great-granddaughter of Michael Shinaberry and Catherine Barnes.

Through our experiences and family research, I've come to a summation of family history. I do not wish to rely upon assumption; however, in the absence of records, history must fill in the gaps. Using time, place, and some deductive reasoning, this is "My Shinabarger Family History."

First, I wish to clarify the answer to a decades-long question and uncovered through the use of DNA technology. Our family name, during its earliest known years, was SHINABERRY. For the more in-depth summary of this research, I refer to a previous report dated 2022: "[Connecting Families of The Dozen Ss](#)."² When referring to John Shinaberry Sr. it is estimated his birth somewhere between 1735-1740. John Jr. is consistently listed as born about 1764 in Virginia.

Answers to the above first and second key questions are generally resolved, keeping in mind things tend to change as more research may be found. However, it is the third question which we still struggle to discover: Who was the mother of the children of John Shinabarger 1764?

² The Dozen Ss refers to the efforts of researchers 1968-1972 who attempted to link the families of the similar surnames of Shinabarger, Shinaberry, Shanabarger and others. This newsletter can be found at [The Dozen S's Newsletter](#).

1700-1750

It has always been thought that our immigrant patriarch emigrated from the Palatinate region of Germany, having possibly migrated previously from Switzerland. Based on the theory the German surname indicated a Schön being a resident of a “berg” of Germany, there were several suggested familial sites: the village of Schöneberg northwest of Remagen, or the Schöenburg Castle region near the medieval walled village of Oberwesel, both located in the German state of the Palatinate. Applicable to Germanic naming is that “berg” references mountain while “burg” references town.

Nothing has ever been proven. As far as I am aware, German records, in Germany, have not been examined. Two hindrances to this include the need to read and understand the original script and records and, secondly, needing to know the name of the immigrant who sailed to America.

DNA has assisted, somewhat. Several familial cousins have generously tested both autosomal and Y (male) DNA.

Autosomal DNA, as weighed by Ancestry, is less accurate as it reflects both paternal and maternal sides of the tester. (However, I *assume* our original ancestors were of the same origin.) When autosomal DNA is considered, the cousins’ tests generally reflected ethnicity estimates in the range of 10-35% Germanic Europe and from 17-34% England & Northwestern Europe (charts below).³



Germanic Europe



Northwestern Europe

An interesting analysis of ethnicity is the tester RH Shinabarger. He tested, on Ancestry, as 17% Northwestern Europe with no Germanic percentages. Conversely, my cousins and myself test heavily Germanic but both our paternal/maternal sides are German. This is not the case with RH whose only Germanic link is a Shinabarger. I place considerable weight on his DNA as our only common link is a Shinabarger.⁴ The ethnicity of RH may be a better indicator of our original emigrant.

Geographically, the Palatinate or *Rheinpfalz*, occupied most of the southern quarter of the German Rhineland and was represented by two small territorial clusters: the Rhenish, or Lower Palatinate, and the Upper Palatinate. The Rhenish Palatinate included lands on both sides of the middle Rhine River

³ Ancestry estimates

⁴ We share my great-grandfather Ernest Franklin Shinabarger



between the Main and Neckar tributaries. The Upper Palatinate was located in northern Bavaria, on both sides of the Naab River as it flows south toward the Danube, and extended eastward to the Bohemian Forest.⁵

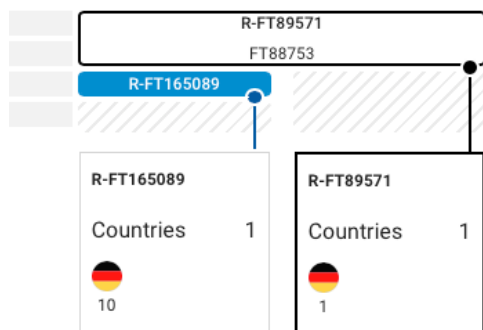
The boundaries of the Palatinate varied with political and dynastic fortunes. The worst disaster to befall the area was the 30-Years War 1618-1648. Its disastrous outcome would be felt for generations by the impoverished vassals who worked the land but rarely owned it. Even 100 years later,

Germans were desperate to flee. Many believed the British meant well when they invited the German peasantry to seek religious freedom and an opportunity to buy land in the British colonies. A deeper explanation of this era can be read in “[An Elusive Patriarch 1700-1764](#).”

To the northwest of this Palatinate region are the countries of Luxembourg and Belgium. Based upon RH’s ethnicity results of 17%, his DNA is matching people of this northern region (I reflect 14%, a male 1C 24%).⁶ There is nothing in his inherited DNA that indicates a prevalence of Germanic ethnicity. Actually, he shows none. Would this indicate that our only common ancestor, a Shinabarger, came from Northwestern Europe?



Shinabarger Y-DNA has also been tested. This points only towards the male ancestry of the tester. Using several test results from Family Tree DNA, our Haplogroup proves to be R-FT165089. This is



reflected in the results of Shinabarger and Shinaberry test results. A clarification for Shanabarger as their Haplogroup is R-FT89571 which is a branch which experienced a mutation sending them down a different path. (Autosomal and shared DNA matches do indicate that the two families are distantly related.)

If a future male tester does not fall within this Haplogroup, he is not descended from our same ancestor.

For further explanation about the DNA results and findings, I refer you to several reports previously posted.

[Shinabarger DNA Results – October 2020](#)

[DNA Summary for January 2021 - Shinabarger](#)

[DNA Goals Met – June 2021](#)

[National Geographic – Shinabarger Report](#)

What is my conclusion? It is clear from records and family history our immigrants were German and/or German speakers. At the time of the heaviest emigration, the term Palatine was used to describe the immigrant, regardless of what part of the Germanic area of Europe from which they came. Records show Palatine immigrants sought religious freedom and a new, more prosperous life in America, beginning as early as 1709.

⁵ Maps from Wikipedia and Britannica

⁶ I have no explanation where this amount of Northwestern Europe derives. I do recognize that England could influence my results and those of my cousin. However, RH’s only English influence would be a 2X paternal great-grandmother.

According to the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, between 1727 and 1775, approximately 65,000 Germans landed in Philadelphia, with the largest group entering during the years 1749-1754. "In 1727 the newcomers were arriving in such great numbers that the English colonists in Pennsylvania were disturbed to see the steady flow of non English settlers pouring through the port of Philadelphia. In order to keep this movement under control, in 1727 the assembly passed a law that all "Palatines" be required to take an Oath of Allegiance to the British Crown. Between 1740 and 1756 there were 30,000 male adults who took the Oath of Allegiance... A real mass migration had started. For example, in 1751 16 vessels brought 4,134 persons to the port of Philadelphia. Large parts of the Country of Pennsylvania as well as the Northern part of Maryland soon had a "thoroughly German character" as it is stated in a contemporary report."⁷

It is my *supposition* that our immigrant ancestor was one of the thousands of Germans to come to America sometime around 1750.⁸ I base this *assumption* upon:

1. Consistently, our records concerning ancestor John Shinabarger show that he was born about 1764 in Virginia.
2. Our first records of a known similar surname and possible residence is John Shineberger on 3 June 1769 in Frederick County, Maryland. Found in Middletown in Frederick County, MD on 24 June 1769 is a Michael Shineberer.
3. John Shevebery (John Shiniberry) bought 1 Heifer at estate sale of Thomas Watson 6 Nov 1778 in Berkeley County, Virginia.⁹ Others at this sale were John's neighbors found in 1787 tax lists.
4. It is a huge *assumptive* leap, but a supposition is that Johann Jacob Schöenberger is the original patriarch of the S-men.¹⁰ Supposedly, he emigrated from the area of Germany's Baden-Württemberg area and died in Linganore, Frederick County, MD in 1777. A large problem is Jacob's Will which only names his wife Anna Margaret and his sister Philipina and a woman named Barbara Arnold daughter of Catherine Shriver; no sons named.

It is within a range of about 70 miles in which the first recorded signs of Shinaberry (and its various spellings and misspellings) are found. One of the main paths of migration was from port of entry through PA, into MD and then VA.

It is unknown if the immigrant entered the Port of Philadelphia or that of Baltimore. Before 1821, few German immigrants arrived into Baltimore; the US Customs Department did not begin to record arriving immigrants until that year. It is *assumed*, like most Germans at that time, our ancestor's entry was via Philadelphia.

For years, ships' lists have been searched without a clear link to our German immigrant. More in-depth discussion will be found in the report, "[An Elusive Patriarch 1700-1764](#)." Currently, *suppositions* for the patriarchal immigrant include:

1. The above-mentioned Johann Jacob Schöenberger, not recognized in ships' lists as yet. When considering the German use of the umlaut, the ö represents a shortened version of "oe." This surname is seen in a variety of similar spellings.

⁷ "The Emigration from the Palatinate to North America from the 17th to the 20th Century" by Roland Paul.

⁸ "Eighteenth Century Emigrants from German-Speaking Lands to North America, Volume II: The Western Palatinate" by Annette Kunselman Burgert.

⁹ Berkeley County was formed from Frederick County Virginia in May of 1772. Berkeley County and environs were annexed into West Virginia in 1863. Much of it was a section of the Lord Fairfax proprietary lands until 1779.

¹⁰ Shortened term for the various spellings of the Shinaberry/Shinabarger men, and others of Dozen Ss spellings

2. Johan Scheenberger and Susan Schinberger were part of the Embarkation from Holland Fifth Party sailing 15 July 1709 to New York. This date seems too early. Onboard is also Henrig Schimberger and Bartel (Bartholomew) Schimberger, unknowns.
3. Hans Schneberger who arrived on *Queen of Denmark*, 4 Oct 1751, George Parish, Commander, from Rotterdam & Cowes. Hans (Dutch and German nickname for Johannes or John) is sailing with wife Barbara (Bärbel) and child Johannes.¹¹ On this ship were mostly Mennonite Germans from Baden-Durlach in the Palatinate. Durlach is in Baden near Karlsruhe just east of the Rhine River. A Hans Schneeberger is found in the 1751 Philadelphia Co. PA Early Census Index.
4. Hans Schöneberger who arrived aboard Friendship 21 Oct 1754.
5. LANTZ families who are connected to early Shinaberry arrived *Thistle*, George Houston, Commander, from Rotterdam but last from Cowes in England. Qualified the 28th Oct 1738. In arrival lists are Lants men Hanse Petter age 30, Jacob 28 and Michel 22, plus 2 children 8, 5 but no mother. In the list for Qualifications on same date the surname is spelled Lantz. C List for Oaths taken that day include Jacob and Michael Lantz.
6. Another name of interest when attempting to place Shinaberry is ROHRER. Ship list for *Robert and Oliver*, Sept. 11, 1738 - Above age 16 - Daniel Klingenschmid (who married a Reitenauer), Johan Gottfried Rohrer, Johannes Rohrer, Frantz Klingenschmidt, Balthaser Reyderauer. Although the Klingenschmidt/Klingensmith family is not discussed in this report, several descendants have made DNA matches on the Shinaberry side of the family. It remains unknown how these families link. It is a distant link possibly dating to late 1700s early 1800s.
7. Oct. 9, 1747 aboard the ship *Restauration* were Georg Rohrer and Friederich Rohrer.
8. Unknown ship name, possibly *St. Andrew*, Oct. 20, 1747. Nichaus Lantz. Unknown as yet if this is the same family that marries Shinaberry men.
9. Oct. 25, 1748. Ship *Patience and Margaret* arrives with Johannes Lantz
10. Aug. 30, 1749. Foreigners imported in the ship *Crown*, aboard is Jacob Rohrer.
11. Sept. 11, 1749, Foreigners imported in the ship *Priscilla* included Jacob Shnabely and Hans Schneeby. This surname appears often in the Maryland and VA records. While it is a documented family, it is a curious spelling and unknown if it is related to Shinaberry.
12. Oct 3, 1753. Passenger List for the Ship *Eastern Branch* included Johan Michael Roller.

Reasons exist to eliminate many immigrants from consideration. First, some immigrants and their descendants are traced upon arrival and appear to belong to other ancestries. Second, our family surname is first seen as a variation of Shinaberry and remained relatively the same for 50 years. I have never seen our family with any other reference than the more anglicized spelling of Shinaberry, Shinabarger, Shanabarger etc. Third, for some immigrants, the naming of their successive sons and daughters does not fit the typical German naming pattern. Our Shinaberry would definitely include John, Jacob and James.

And in a broad *assumption*, the more I look at Hans Schneberger the more I consider he could be our patriarchal emigrant who arrived on the *Queen of Denmark* on 4 Oct 1751.

Johann Jacob Schöenberger seems to be the probable progenitor of the Shanabarger group along with lines who adopted other spellings. As written above, Shanabarger appears to be at least another generation earlier than the patriarch of Shinaberry. But the two ancestral lines are linked both by DNA and similar spellings of surname over time. It could be that the above Hans Schneberger and Johann Jacob Schöenberger share a common parent or grandparent in Germany.

¹¹ This son John could be John Shinaberry Sr. that is seen in the records by 1769 and 1778. A weakness to this supposition is the absence of daughters named Barbara in subsequent families. Barbara was not a very common name.

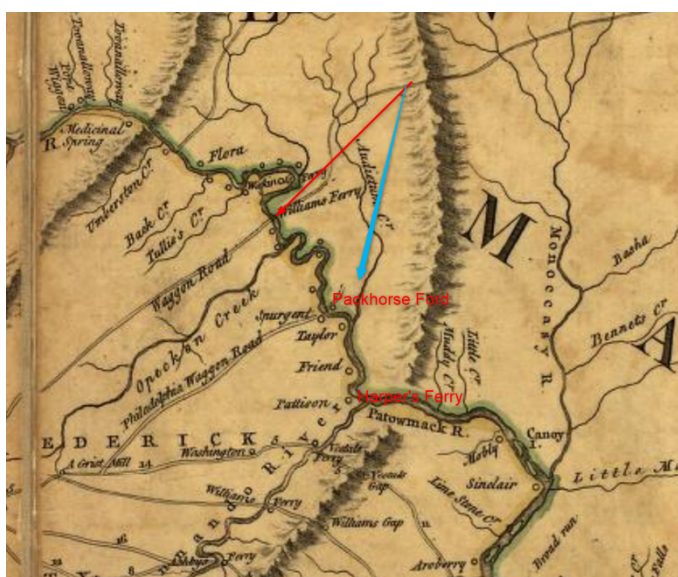
1750-1802

When tracking the Shinaberry family it is equally important to consider the allied families who contributed sons and daughters to marriages. Finding the origins and locations of these families can shed light and confirm the origins and locations of one's own family. Some of those allied family surnames found accompanying the Shinaberry line for several decades include Barnes, Murdock, Blue, Metcalf, Quick, and Tedrick, to name but a few. Family links or coincidences? All need to be considered when creating a picture of family history.

How did the Shinaberrys and neighbors arrive into Berkeley County? The *assumption* is they were traveling from the area of Frederick County Maryland into Virginia.

Coming from the northeast, they had to cross the Potomac River. While the Potomac is wide, it varies in depth. In the region in question, much of the river is wide, slow-moving and shallow. (Dams and canals have been built since our ancestor's time.) In many places, river depth could average under 3-5 feet. So, would they have needed a ferry in order to cross the river? Perhaps not.

Excellent references to existing Potomac River Crossings are the 1755 Frye-Jefferson maps.¹² There were options for our ancestors to cross the Potomac River, including:



Early itinerant ministers came down Conococheague Creek from Pennsylvania to serve the congregations spread around Berkeley County. They crossed the river at the upper ford of the Potomac at Watkins' Ferry (established 1744) which is at present-day Williamsport where the current Rte. 11 bridge spans the river. The ferry extended from the mouth of the Conococheague Creek in MD across the Potomac to Watkins' Landing about 250 yds southeast. This landing was the entrance of Braddock's Road into Berkeley County, VA., where Braddock and George Washington crossed in 1755 on their way Fort Duquesne near present-day Pittsburgh.

Slightly south was the Williams Ferry located around Falling Waters and the Wagon Road. From either crossing, one easily entered Back Creek where our ancestors can be found in records by 1778.

Perhaps the most probable place of crossing would have been in a more direct line southeasterly from Middletown, Maryland through Rohrerville using portions of the "main road" also known as the Philadelphia Wagon Road leading to Packhorse Ford just east of what became Shepherdstown, VA (now in Jefferson County, WV). This town was originally established as Mecklenburg, Frederick County, VA in 1762 before its name change; it is one of the oldest towns, along with Romney, in that area of early Virginia. The first settlers into the northern neck of the Shenandoah Valley crossed the Potomac at Packhorse Ford as early as 1720. A 1737 map survey by Mayo shows a small settlement of Spurgent on both sides of the Potomac there.

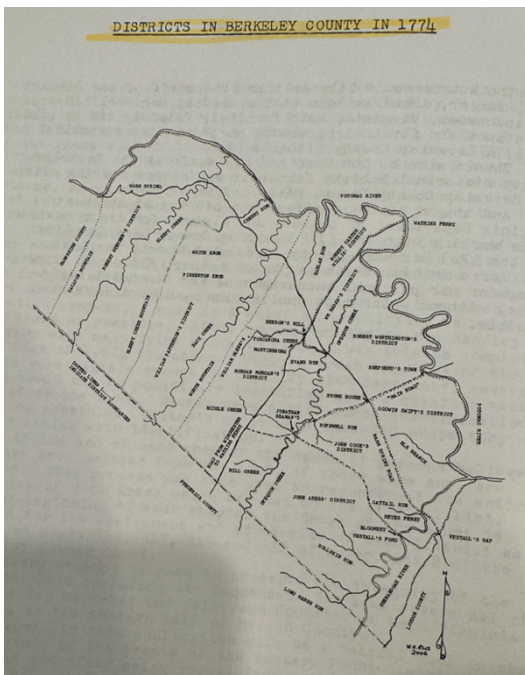
¹² Library of Congress-Fry/Jefferson Map 1755

"In addition to the Germans who first came and the Quakers, also came many Irish and Scotch-Irish, with a few Welsh and Hollanders, or Dutch, from New York, among the latter being the Vanswearingens and the Vanmeters; among the Welsh the Morgans¹³ and others, and among the Scotch-Irish those who settled along Back Creek and on the Opequon. These nationalities professing religions in opposition to the established churches of their native countries sought relief from persecution in the New World...A number of Scotch-Irish families also settled along the Tuscarora and Mill Creek, as well as a few English and Welsh who held to the English established church, among these being Morgan Morgan...."¹⁴

"The Frye-Jefferson map of 1755 neglects to demonstrate the original route of the Great Wagon Road leading away from the Pack Horse Ford. In fact, this map displays two "wagon roads" for the period. One led to William's Ferry, and the other led to the Pack Horse Ford."¹⁵

The choice of travel would involve safety, ease in crossing the low mountains, the location of gaps in the mountains, existing trails, and availability of money if ferries were to be used. Most settlers probably crossed the river in the Autumn. Crops were harvested and water levels would be at their lowest. Did settlers traveling along these paths opt for fording the river, which was dangerous regardless of the time of year, or, did they opt for a ferry? Ferry crossings were not free. Rates for a man or horse was 3 pence, carts cost 6 pence, and each cow another 3 pence.

Regardless of the path Shinaberry and others traveled, their trip from PA and MD would not have been easy. Early settlers would have followed the long-established Indian paths through the heavy forest and over a moderate ridge to the Potomac. The distance to Shepherdstown would have been about 27 miles from Frederick Co. MD where it is believed Shinaberry resided. From Shepherdstown, the travelers would have turned easterly for 10 miles toward the small town of Martinsburg (1778). Back Creek would have been a few additional miles after a climb over the North Mountain ridge.



Early tax records include the names of the Morgans, Swearingens and Vanmeters developing their plantations not far out of Sheperdstown.

These early tax and tithable records are extremely valuable for locating surnames and the Districts in which they lived.

¹³ When checking later tax lists, Morgan Morgan was along the prominent families of Swearingen, Rohrer, Vanmeter.

¹⁴ "History of the lower Shenandoah Valley counties of Frederick, Berkeley, Jefferson and Clarke: their early settlement and progress to the present time...." by J. E. Norris.

¹⁵ "The Legendary Pack Horse Ford" published by Piedmont Trails, 2024

What appears as early mentions of our Shinaberry family include:

1750 – as early as 1750 there are Funks in Beaver Creek, Washington County, MD. A descendent married Lewis Shanabarger there in 1872. He is the great grandson of the Michael Schöneberger found in Middletown MD in 1813. Michael's son, Michael Jr. born 1770, travels to Ohio where his daughter Elizabeth married Rev. David Shuh. The Reverend was the first minister of the Mt. Zion Lutheran Church in Lucas, Richland County and was the minister who married two of John Shinaberry's children and probably preformed the funeral for John Shinaberry as he was laid to rest at the Mt. Zion Church Cemetery along with many Shanabargers.

1769 – on 3 June, John Shineberger cited in land records as “supersedeas against Philip Gisler, Adam Ground and Samuel Kelly.” in Frederick County, Maryland.

1769 - 24 June, Michael Shineberer bought Lot “28 in Middletown. “Michael Shineberer, cordwainer, recorded 11 July 1769, made 24 June between Frederick Miller, for £24 Pennsylvania, sells lot #28 in Middletown, 46 ft. by 330 ft.”¹⁶

1770 – Michael and Catherina Schoneberger, a son Georg Michael, 12 March. Christ Reformed Church, Middletown, Frederick, MD.

Maryland Marriages name several Trimbles including Samuel and Catherine; Joseph son of William and Mary who appeared to marry in both 1744 and in 1753; John son of Joseph and Sarah. Unknowns.

1774 – No Shinaberry found in Berkeley County.

1774 – June and August - Jacob Shannenberger and Michael Tice named in land records for Frederick County MD. Unknowns. John Barnes, son of James of Frederick Co 1774; Joshua Barnes son of Robert; Nathan Barnes son of Robert, Frederick Rohrer tavern keeper, 1775, in Elizabeth Town.¹⁷

1775 - Michael Shaneburger 1775 for yearly rents in Goose Cap, 10 acres for 21 years. In 1777 lists 33 acres in Goose Cap. 1788 Michael Shneberger with 50 acres.¹⁸

1776-1777 – Frederick County MD Census lists familiar family surnames and ages: Males 16-50: Frederick Rohrer age 34; Jacob Rohrer 32, Christian Rohrer 49; Martin Funk 22; Henry Funck 24; John Funck 26. -- Females 16-50: Catherine Dietz 24; Catharine Rohrer 30, Jane Long 31, Christiana Rohrer 28, Fronica Rohrer 35, Ann Funck 23, Barbara Funck 23. -- Males 16 and under: John Rohrer 9 and Jacob 3; Christian Rohrer 11 and John 9 and Samuel 2; Martin Funk 6 mos, Henry 3 and John 2; John Dietz 5 weeks; Frederick Rohrer 9, Jacob 6, John 3 and George 2 months. -- Females 16 and under: Barbara Rohrer 8; Elizabeth Long 10; Ann Rohrer 7, Cathrine 5 and Elisabeth under 1; Mary Rohrer 5, Ann 4 and Elizabeth 2.¹⁹

1777 - Johann Jacob Schöenberger dies and is buried in Linganore, Frederick County, MD.

¹⁶ “Frederick County Land Record Abstracts, Liber M 1768-1770” page 40

¹⁷ “Frederick County Land Record Abstracts, Liber M 1768-1770”

¹⁸ Ibid

¹⁹ “1776 Census of Maryland” for Frederick County

1778 - John Shevebery bought 1 Heifer at estate sale of Thomas Watson 6 Nov 1778 in Berkeley County, Virginia. Also at sale are neighbors Samuel Wilson and a Bowman (neighbors named in 1787 tax list).²⁰

1778- Teter Theodore Barnes (later a neighbor in Berkeley County) took the Fidelity Oath in Hagerstown, Washington County, MD²¹ (Hagerstown located at the crossroads of the “Warrior Trading Path” and the wagon path that was to become the National Road in 1811.)²²

1782 through 1802 – a John Shinaberry and others of similar spelling are found in the Tax Records and the Tithable lists for Berkeley County, Virginia. He is consistently located in the Back Creek area most probably between the area of Tuscarora Church, Tomahawk settlement and north to Falling Waters



found on the VA side of the Potomac River (a distance of 20 miles). For an in-depth report on John Shinaberry Sr and Berkeley County research, read “[Finding Our Patriarch](#)” published in June 2023.²³

At left: Back Creek as it looks today looking west toward Sleepy Creek and its mountain. Farmland, small local churches, tiny communities and thick forests remain. Back Creek got its name because it lay to the back of North Mountain to the east.

1782 – John Chunaberry is polled. I *assume* this is John Shinaberry as he is located in vicinity of some of the same neighbors who are in the 1787 list: Joseph Heppinstall, Andrew Bowman, Jacob Painter, two Reed men, William Robinson.²⁴

Found in the 2nd Battalion District Lists are allied families, many of whom travel to Ohio about the same time as Shinaberry. Names include: Uriah Blue Sr and Jr, Michael Blue, John Barns, Joseph Barns Sr and Jr, John Barnes, Richard and John Blue’s executors, Alexander Blue execs, John Hite, Henry Long, Allen Metcalf, Tunis Quick, John Turner, George Tabler, and Henry Vanmeter.²⁵

1783 – Following the tithable lists for elected commissioners, one is able to place surnames into specific Districts polled within Berkeley County. John Morrow’s List names Vachel Metcalf Sr and Jr, Amos and Allen Metcalf, George Tabler, John Turner (*assume* he is the guardian of John Miller who rents land to Michael Shinaberry); Commissioner Cato Moore lists Michael Blue and Honorable Geo Fairfax (holder of the Fairfax Lands); James Nourse lists Michael Blue Jr, Barnabas Blue, Uriah Blue, Martha Blue, Joseph and John Hite.

²⁰ Difficult to read Microfilm Index Es 1772-1926, Grantors S-Z. Image 0898, Martinsburg Public Library

²¹ “Maryland Early Census Index”

²² County seat of Hagerstown, Elizabeth Town until 1814 name change, grew rapidly in late 18th-early 19th centuries and was a prominent market hub. Washington County was created in 1776 out of Frederick County (formed 1748).

²³ “1774 List of Tithables and Wheel Carriages, Berkeley County, Virginia” edited by William H. Rice; “Berkeley County Rent Roll 1774-1781” and “Berkeley County Tax Lists” and “Tithable Lists” for a variety of years.

²⁴ If one examines District lists closely, it is possible to determine where each was located within Berkeley County, thus placing specific men and their neighbors into specific locations, i.e. Sleepy Creek, Back Creek, Martinsburg, etc.

²⁵ “Reconstructed Census Berkeley County, 1774-1810” (Rent Roll 1774-1781). John and Jacob Tabler, John Lefever and Michael Rohrer are found in the District of the 1st Battalion.

1785 - John Shunaberry found with 1 white male above 21, 2 white males under 21, 4 horses, 4 cattle in Personal Property Berkeley County. Neighbors in area are Barnes, Blue and Vachel Metcalf. This probably is John Sr. with 2 sons (John Jr. and *assumed* Michael).

1786 - John Shinaberry found with no tithable male, 3 horses, 4 cattle in Personal Property Berkeley County. Next in list is John Shinaberry Jr 1 white male over 21 (himself), 1 horse. (John Jr. would have turned 21 about 1785)

04/07 Todhunter, Jos.
04/09 Barnard, Jonat.
04/09 Bowman, Elias
04/09 Clerk, William
04/09 Colgan, Daniel
04/09 Donelley, John
04/09 Gammon, Richd.
04/09 Gilcrist, Henry
04/09 Goodon, Patrick
04/09 Heppinstall, Joseph
04/09 Hutton, Jno.
04/09 Mony, Law.
04/09 Mounts, John
04/09 Painter, Jacob
04/09 Rawlins, Benjamin
04/09 Reed, William
04/09 Robinson, William
04/09 Shannaberry, John
04/09 Shannaberry, John, Jr.
04/09 Wilson, Samuel
04/10 Carson, William

1787 – dated 9 April James Watson District (Jacob Bedinger 4th Battalion) lists John Shannaberry, tax paid for self, 1 white male under 21, 6 horses, 3 cattle. Next in list is John Shannaberry Jr., tax paid by John Shannaberry, as 1 white male above 21. Neighbors recorded on same date were Barnard, Bowman, Clerk, Colgan, Donnelley, Gammon, Gilcrist, Gordon, Heppinstall, Hutton, Mony, Mounts, Painter, Rawlins, Reed, Robinson then the Shannaberrys. Exact neighbors cannot be determined as names are in alphabetical order by date. They would live in proximity to each other as they were polled on the same date.²⁶

The 1787 tax list is unique, the result of a law passed by the Virginia Assembly on 11 October 1786. This required that each tax commissioner should "on the tenth day or March annually, begin and continue proceeding without delay through their respective district, and call on every person subject to taxation or having property in his or her possession for a written list thereof... make four alphabetical general lists therefrom shewing (sp) in columns according to the form hereto also annexed, the date when each list was received, the persons chargeable with the tax or taxes, and the number or quantity of every species of property, inserting the names of all not just heads of household! free males subject to tax distinguishing those also subject only to parish and county levy. . ."

This law differed from how lists were previously done as a commissioner was to call on each person at his residence. Before this people took their list to the commissioner. He was to make a note of the day he took the lists and use a form which had a column for the names of the males over 21 years of age. They had previously been instructed to get these names and those of slaves over 16, but many did not. Additionally, they were to note the number of free white males between 16 and 21.

The tax on white males aged 21 years and up was repealed on the 12th of October 1787. Some of the tax commissioners continued using the 1787 tax form for a year or two... but the 1787 list is the only one in which it was required. This makes it an important list and is why it is used as a "census" of Virginia. "Levy free" is the same as not tithable. Exemptions included: woman, the old and infirm, Indians, and an occupation like clergy or teacher. White males between 16 and 21 were subject to a county tithe, but not to the state tax. Persons living out of the county could be listed if they still owned property within the county, but they were exempt except in the county where they lived. Often, the commissioner noted the county or state where the taxpayer had moved or currently lived.²⁷

²⁶ "The 1787 Census of Virginia Berkeley County" and "The Personal Property Tax Lists for the Year 1787 for Berkeley County, Virginia" by Netti Schreiner-Yantis and Florence Speakman Love, 1987.

²⁷ "The Personal Property Tax Lists for the Year 1787 for Berkeley County, Virginia" by Netti Schreiner-Yantis and Florence Speakman Love, 1987

1790 – Census of Maryland lists free white males over 16, free white under 16, white females, slaves:²⁸
--Corneleous Trimble with 2, 1, 1 in Back River Upper Hundred of Baltimore Co
--James Trimble with 3, 2, 6 and 1 slave in Cecil County
--James Trimbel 1, 3, 3 in Baltimore Co
--Wm Trimble 3, 3, 4 Baltimore Town, Baltimore Co
--Mr. Trimble 1, 0, 5 Baltimore Town, Baltimore Co
--Michael Trimble 1, 4, 2 in Frederick Co
--John Heller with 1, 1, 7

1791 - John Shinaberry recorded with 118 acres, price paid 2/8, value 15 pounds, 14 shillings 8 pence, taxed 1 shilling 2 pence. Recorded in District 1st Battalion, Berkeley County by James Wilson, Commissioner. Berkeley County WV Land Book Vol 1782-1794.²⁹

During these years, also found in the tax lists of Berkeley County are various entries for Michael Shennebery, Nicholas Shaneberry, George Shanebery, Jacob Shinnebery (surname spellings vary). It is *assumed* these men are related. Neighbors also found in the lists include Barnes, Blue, Metcalf, Quick, Tedrick.

While no connection to churches occurred in the first several decades, there were Dunkard (German Baptist Brethren) and a mix of Presbyterian, Methodist Evangelical ME, and Friends churches located in Back Creek, Berkeley County. Most congregants got along very well and shared in the traveling ministry assigned to their district.³⁰

1792 – tax list includes John Snenaberry with 118 acres in 1st Battalion District (Back Creek).

1793-1794 – It is *assumed* that John Shinaberry Jr. married in Berkeley County about 1793. His son Jacob was born about 1794. No record of this marriage has been found. A logical *assumption* is he married the daughter of a neighbor or one attending his same congregaton. John's first four children (Jacob, Susanna who married a Blue, John and James) would have been born in Berkeley County. No records have been found. Searching a plethora of records in Frederick and Berkeley counties in Virginia/West Virginia, I found no mention of the birth or marriage of John Shinaberry 1764. There were marriages and mentions for neighbors such as Barnes, Blue, Rohrer, and Tabler.

Marriages of interest are:³¹

Jacob Sheneberg to Margaret Weise 5 Feb 1793. Md by David Young

Michael Shenenberg to Susan Miller 31 Jul 1794. Md by David Young

George Shennebere to Hannah Heath 23 Dec 1788. Md by Hugh Vance (Vance also married Israel Heath and Elizabeth Blue in 1799)

Early religious services within Back Creek probably were held in homes until a structure was built by the community. Early itinerant ministers came down Conococheague Creek from Pennsylvania and ministered to churches that were assigned to them. The minister was temporary and moved among

²⁸ "First Census of the US. Heads of Families, Maryland 1790" Could these men be linked be the Trimble family and Catherine Shinaberry, sister to John Jr.? Unknown. James Trimble who md Shinaberry lived in Pendleton Co. VA by 1799 according to Morton's History of Highland County.

²⁹ According to "The Source, Guidebook of American Genealogy," edited by Loretto Dennis Szucs and Sandra Hargreaves Luebking, there were "no land grants" (military) awarded in this area of Virginia. Most were west in Ohio.

³⁰ "History of Presbytery of Winchester, Synod of Virginia" by Robert Bell Woodworth

³¹ "Berkeley County Marriage Records 1781-1854" by Guy L Keesecker

congregations. The Back Creek Church, later named Stone Church, and now known as the Tomahawk Church, dates from 1745. There was another church built in Falling Waters dating to about the same time. The first record of the Friends' congregation of Back Creek dates 1759 and its meeting house was around the burial ground near the present-day village of Gainsboro, further to the south. Driving the area of Back Creek, many of these churches remain as do cemeteries where descendants of the pioneers are buried, some as early as 1820 at the Tomahawk Presbyterian Church. The Mt. Zion Episcopal Church was founded in 1752.

"The Donegal Presbytery gave each new probationer a list of places he was to itinerate as a missionary by the next stated meeting. The list handed Hugh Vance on October 13, 1769 included Tuscarora, Falling Water, others as he served where he was told to go. The Presbyterian Church does not guarantee any man place or position."³²

David Young and Hugh Vance were traveling ministers to the churches of Back Creek where they traveled among their assigned districts. Occasionally, a church congregation invited and paid a minister to serve their congregants. These ministers included Hugh and David Vance, Nathan Young and Moses Hoge. Hoge was connected to the Friends church; Vance with the Tuscarora, Tomahawk Presbyterian and others including Falling Waters. The father of Nathan Young was an early member of the ME (Methodist Evangelical) church which tended to align with the Quakers and shared facilities. This is of interest as the first church connected with a Shinaberry was in Ohio when Joseph Barnes Shinaberry's funeral was held at the ME in Knox County, Ohio in 1885.

None of the above marriages are tied to our Shinaberry, as far as I know. Michael Shinaberry married Catherine Barnes, daughter of Teter Barnes of Berkeley County about 1792.³³ George remains unverified. The Jacob who married Margaret Weise could be connected to the Jacob who moved to Pendleton Co. Virginia but information gathered says he married Margaret Ann Life about 1790.

1799 – John Miller orphan of Phillip Miller, audit of items, for Mary Miller for support of orphan; letter of guardianship to John Turner 20 Sept 1802 and recorded 27 Sept. Collected rent of Michael Shaneberry on April 19. Records appear to indicate that Michael Shinaberry rented his land while John Shinaberry owned at least 118 acres in 1791.

1801 – John Shinnaberry, Michael Shinnaberry and a second John Shinnaberry are found in tax records for Back Creek area. George Shanaberry is in the Sleepy Creek area just to their west.

1801-1802 – Michael Shanebery is a renter of lands belonging to Philip Miller; rents owed to John Miller orphan of Philip Miller, 19 Apr 1801.³⁴

1802 - Tax Records show John Shinnebury with 70 acres; Teter Barnes with 322 acres, and an Elizabeth Lentz 50 acres. (Could this Lentz be connected to Mary Lyndon/Lantz thought to be the wife of John Shinaberry Sr?)

³² "History of Presbytery of Winchester, Synod of Virginia" by Robert Bell Woodworth.

³³ Catherine is found in Knox County OH after Michael's death. "1 Jan 1811 Land Tax Records - Catherine Shinaberry R13, township 6, section 2 Knox Co., original proprietors Michael Click" and again 1814 for Knox County Catherine Shinaberry for R13 T6 S2 and original owner Nathan Nye.

1814. Knox County Catherine Shinaberry for R13 T6 S2 and original owner Nathan Nye

³⁴ Difficult to read Microfilm "Index Es 1772-1926, Grantors S-Z" Image 0892, Martinsburg Public Library.

1802 – John Shenneberry is located in the same District of Back Creek, along with Blue and Barnes. No other Shinaberry is found. There occurred a large exodus of men from Berkeley County around this time. 1801-1802 is the last mention of any Shinaberry men in Berkeley County. John is the only one remaining in 1802 after which he either died or joined the others. Many other families are also absent: Tedrick, Ingman, Eagle, Bunn, Metcalf, among others.

I am of the opinion that John Sr. has died. The only John Shinaberry who arrives into Ohio is John Jr. This will be explained in more detail.

Tax records between 1800-1802 are very important. Found in Property Tax records for Back Creek district (highlight): Peter Barnes, Abraham Blue, Frederick Blue, Luke Ingman, James Quick, John Shinaberry and a 2nd John Shinaberry. All surnames can be connected to the Shinaberry/Shinabarger who removed to Ohio around 1802. Henry Ingman and Christopher Teadrick are in Sleepy Creek.

Michael Shinnaberry is in Stephens Neck. I believe George Shanaberry is in the vicinity of the Gant Plantation further southeast.



A reference to T Town is the community of Tomahawk which is along Back Creek. Other communities of Tuscarora, just west of Martinsburgh/Martinsburg, and what I believe to be Stephens Neck (within the large bend of the Potomac) are on this 1809 map. Mill Creek is south close to the county line bordering Hampshire Co. to the south and Jefferson Co. to the east.

According to tax records and historians, Jefferson County eventually became the site of several plantation which owned slaves. Over 80% of the residents in Berkeley County did not own slaves. However, when Jefferson County was carved from Berkeley in 1801, out of the 512 families in the county, 329 of these families were in Jefferson. With 1,357 households in Jefferson, there were over 1,452 taxable slaves.³⁵

Jacob Shinaberry, believed to be another son of John Shinaberry Sr., was born about 1770 in Virginia. He married Margaret Ann Life about 1790. It is *assumed* that this is the Jacob Shinnebery found in 1794 Berkeley County alongside John, Michael, George and Nicholas. He continues to be found in the tax and tithable lists in 1795 and 1797 thru 1799.

1790 – Maryland Census lists several Trimble names including James in Cecil County, a James and a William in Baltimore County, and a Michael in Frederick County.³⁶ Unknown connection as yet.

³⁵ "Berkeley County, U.S.A." by Doherty McClain

³⁶ "Heads of Families, 1st Census of US 1790 Maryland"

Jacob is seen for the first time in Pendleton County, Virginia in the 1803 personal property tithables. He purchased land there in Dec 1804 and homesteaded that area for a couple generations. In 1810, I believe he is referred to at an estate sale as John Shenabarger (who is never otherwise seen in the records) and later Jacob Shinabery is seen living in Crabbottom where he died in 1822.³⁷

For more information and documentation concerning Jacob Shinaberry and his descendants, refer to [“Connecting Families of the Dozen Ss”](#) written in 2022.

A second Shinaberry in Augusta and Highland counties Virginia is Catherine Susanna born about 1763. Catherine is a daughter of John Shinaberry Sr. She married James Trimble 4 Jan 1785 in Maryland. Many Shinabarger autosomal DNA matches have been made to this couple. Morton writes that James was “living on Straight Creek” in Pendleton County in 1799.³⁸

What is the connection to these Shenandoah Valley ancestors? Many DNA autosomal matches connect these Shinaberry men and women. But there are other reasons how and why I recognize the importance of these connections:

1. If Johann Jacob Schöenberger is the ancestor, then the connection to Maryland becomes more plausible. Records cited earlier in this report list Shinaberry, Trimble and other allied families living in Frederick County, MD. There was a John Shineberger and a Michael Shineberer found in Frederick County in 1769. So, could both Catherine be a daughter and Jacob a son of John Senior? Currently, this is my *assumption*. Considering the large numbers of autosomal matches made with this Shenandoah line (over 64 with me), these are my ancestors. The question remains where James Trimble may fit into the equation beyond his marriage to Catherine.³⁹
2. I previously thought it curious finding Jacob Shinaberry and Catherine Shinaberry Trimble in the Shenandoah counties of Augustus 1738, Pendleton 1788 and Highland 1847.⁴⁰ However, when the history of this land is researched, one finds how it all interconnects. To this region of Virginia in 1749, the first European settlers were coming from Frederick, Maryland. In 1863, much of the land was bound by the newly created borders of West Virginia.
3. How did early German settlers arrive? The majority of Germans who fled the Rhineland for freedom from oppression and endless war first settled in the counties of Lancaster, Lebanon, Berks, and York. Most of these men were farmers and tradesmen. When cheap land was bought up, they moved westward and southward. Germans came across the Potomac from Maryland and PA. The narrow neck of western MD was traversed and the Shenandoah Valley entered.

Early settlers coming from PA and MD could follow a branch of the Virginia Warrior Path and follow the Conococheague Creek to ferry across the Potomac River into Virginia at the mouth of the creek where it enters the Potomac at Williamsport MD. This route followed the Valley Pike Road (now Rte. 11) some 9 miles from the mouth of Back Creek which was about a mile downstream from Fort Frederick on the MD side. Many early settlers and farmers preferred

³⁷ Variety of tax and census lists including “Sims index to land grants in West Virginia”

³⁸ “A History of Highland County, Virginia” Oren F. Morton, 1911.

³⁹ There are two prominent Trimble families. James and John, Agnes, and Moses Trimble are found in early Loudoun and Frederick Virginia counties. However, as yet there has been no connection between James and his earlier generations. The high number of DNA matches may indicate more than just the paternal Shinaberry match.

⁴⁰ The counties vary but this is because the Orange County originally included all Virginia lands west of the Blue Ridge as far as the Mississippi River. Out of this land was later created Augustus 1738, Rockingham 1778, Pendleton 1788, Pocahontas in 1821, and Highland 1847. An early Shinaberry could be born in Augusta Co. Virginia, marry in Pendleton Co. VA and die in Pocahontas County West Virginia without having left his family farm.

Back Creek as the land was not as rocky and rough as other areas. Berkeley was assessable whereas it was more difficult to move on beyond the Appalachians.

Berkeley County lies within the Appalachian system. Its main ridges are North Mountain in the northeast and Sleepy Creek Mountain to the southwest. From the north, everything funnels in a southerly direction through a narrow valley to today's WV/VA border. In order to travel south, the Berkeley County, Jacob Shinaberry would have had to cross these mountains. Fortunately, settlers were connected to the lower Shenandoah Valley by two gaps. These passes and their rivers allowed access to move south into Augusta and Pendleton counties. It is *assumed* this is how Jacob Shinaberry traveled south with his wife and established the Shinaberry line in this part of America.

I researched family history in Virginia and West Virginia, principally in the counties of Pocahontas, Highland, Augusta and Pendleton. Surnames of interest were Shinaberry and Trimble and those allied families who married into these families. For more information concerning Jacob Shinaberry and his descendants, refer to "[Connecting Families of the Dozen Ss](#)" written in 2022.

Early emigrants entered Berkeley County in the mid to late 1700s. Some ancestors had reasons to migrate south, others headed west.

By the first decade of the 1800s many were moving further west into Ohio. The promise of land always attracted the hard-working German farmer. Our Shinaberry family was no exception. There occurs a noticeable departure of the Shinaberrys and allied families during the first decade of the century. Again, there is no clear path of movement; however, typically the Germans headed to Ohio via a variety of paths and waterways which passed thru the counties of Fayette and Washington in Pennsylvania.

Settlers would have been using a variety of transportation including ferries, cart, wagon and walking. It would have been slow. Did they pause along the way for the birth of children? To bury their loved ones? To visit relatives?

1802-1809

If we fail to discover records, history books are a source for filling in the gaps in family history. Using historical descriptions, some *assumptions* may be made concerning our own German family.

It appears our early Shinaberry family lived a quiet, hard-working life of farming and operating sawmills. Yet, their children married into better-known families. So, to understand our early history, I studied the typical movements of the early German immigrants, and the movements of those allied families who are found to be living around, working with, and marrying their sons and daughters.

Our ancestors do not seem to be as adventurous as others. They appeared to always follow the footsteps of the true pioneers by a few years.

One absence from records is any reference of serving in the Revolutionary War. Were they among the pacifist?⁴¹ Not only were men drafted for the Continental army, but Virginia also hosted its own Militia in 1778. While a Shinaberry may not have fought, and John Sr. was of age, most farmers and citizens contributed as a supporter during the war. Each enlistment or form of support, be it a horse, grain or wagon, could warrant the issue of a military land grant. In 1776, Congress promised soldiers of the Continental line some land, privates and noncommissioned officers got 100 acres. Virginia also promised land. The U.S. Military District in Ohio, opened in 1796, was the only federal lands where federal revolutionary warrants could be used until 1830.

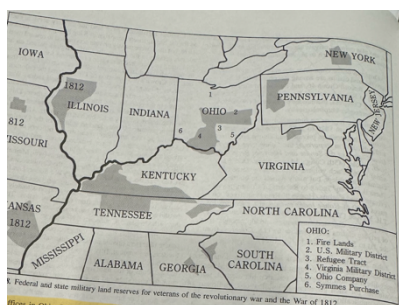
Shinaberry neighbors and future in-laws are mentioned as giving material support during the Revolution. The June Court of 1786, names Uriah Blue Sr. 1 carriage; Michael Blue 1 carriage; Tunis Quick; Joseph Barnes & Co; Vachel Medcalf. But no Shinaberry.⁴²

Initially, these lands were sold in very large tracts, putting them out of reach of most men. Small 100-acre grants did not allow most citizens to buy land. The heyday for grants began in 1788 when a Congressional Act allowed warrants to be assignable, meaning a soldier could sell his warrant rather than move or wait to develop the land. These assignable warrants were redeemable only for land in the U.S. Military District in Ohio. Privates and noncommissioned officers of the Continental line from any state received 100 acres, ensigns 150 acres, requiring them to join together through an agent to get some value from their warrants.

Less than one soldier in ten (or his heirs) used his warrant for any federal bounty-land. Most soldiers sold their rights to another, who might then pass it on to second buyer. However, by 1800, lots as small as one hundred acres were available. Later in 1820, government set a price-ceiling by charging a flat \$1.25 per acre for most of its lands. These changes held promise for those small, struggling farmers of Berkeley County, like John and Michael Shinaberry.

⁴¹ One list of "Petition of Dissenters: Tuscarora" did not list a Shinaberry.

⁴² "Virginia Publick Claims Berkeley County" Compiled by Janice L. Abercrombie and Richard Slatten.



Virginia was also unique in that it not only had the largest state population but it granted warrants not only to its Continental line but to its state line as well. There were no bounty lands within present-day Virginia or West Virginia. In 1784, Virginia ceded its claim to the area north of the Ohio River, reserving the 4 million acres between the Scioto and Little Miami rivers for redemption of its bounty-land warrants. This Virginia Military District in Ohio was federal land for which first-title land grants were reserved solely for the Virginia veterans of the continental line. It is estimated that "about 64 percent

of Virginia's obligations to its veterans were satisfied by the land grants in the Virginia Military District of Ohio."⁴³ Early settlers were encouraged to emigrate in order to settle the land and to reach the numbers required for Ohio statehood. The plan worked. Settlers poured into these territorial lands and Ohio became a state by 1 March 1803.

As Virginia had no bounty lands, I found no mention of land grants in Berkeley County. The closest I found was a John Shanaberry recording 118 acres of land in 1791 in the 1st Battalion District of James Wilson, Commissioner. This fits with the Shinaberry presence in Back Creek. If John or Michael had a warrant, and with the encouragement to migrate west, I *assume* this is the main reason they disappear from Berkeley County by 1802. Or perhaps, the availability and price of land was much better than in Berkeley County by 1800.⁴⁴

There is a gap in years from the time Shinaberrys depart Virginia and appear in Ohio. Again, the *assumption* is they followed the typical path of other Germans and neighbors. (More detail can be found in "[Finding Our Patriarch](#).")

Travel westward was initially by foot on Indian paths and then by horse and wagon on trails cut through the wilderness. Native Americans continued to be a threat in some areas so the welcome presence of fortifications provided a stopping-points. The Shinaberrys lived just south of the Potomac and would have either used Watkins Ferry to cross at Williamsport or Williams Ferry at the Wagon Road crossing. (This is before the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal at the confluence of the Conococheague Creek and the Potomac River was started in 1828). This would have been the closest river ford to Back Creek.



At left: Potomac at site of Watkins Ferry.

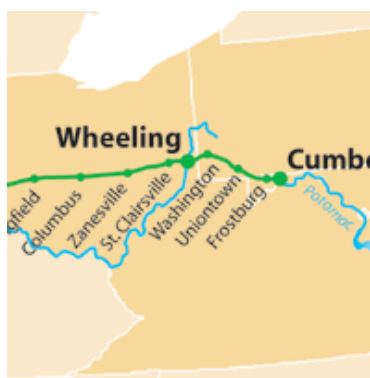
I *assume* the family and their belongings ferried across the Potomac then continued their journey north, possibly following Conococheague Creek as the ministers did, in order to join the wagon path that would in another decade become the National Road/National Pike (now Rte. 40). From the Potomac this journey would have been a distance of about 5 miles.

Wagons pulled by horses or oxen, or women and children walking, depended upon the weather and terrain. The Shinaberrys probably traveled an average of 10-15 miles a day. When I write "wagon" I am not referring to a Conestoga. These wagons would cost hundreds of dollars and I am *assuming* the Shinaberrys were not affluent and at most had a farm flat-bed wagon used to carry supplies and household goods and possibly pulled by a

⁴³ "The Source, Guidebook of American Genealogy" edited by Loretto Dennis Szucs and Sandra Hargreaves Luebking

⁴⁴ According to records cited earlier, John owned land and Michael rented.

horse or cattle/oxen. In 1787, John was taxed for 6 horses and 3 cattle; in 1801 he had 2 horses, cattle not counted.



Their trail would have traversed through rugged and forested northern Maryland for about 100 miles before crossing the Mason-Dixon Line into Pennsylvania. Angling somewhat north, the first town of any size was Uniontown, Fayette County, MD. Another 40 miles and the family would be arriving into Washington, in Washington County, MD.

It is unknown how much time it took for the settlers to reach these destinations. It is known that Shinaberrys left Berkeley County sometime in 1802 but did not arrive into Ohio until 1808 at the earliest. Where were they for five years and what were they doing? It would have been common for them to pause, usually near a fortified area, to rest themselves and their animals.

There are events which tie the Shinaberrys to these and surrounding counties. However, it is also *assumed* that they met many other settlers, many of them also German, who were leaving PA destined for Ohio. Some of those families later contribute a son or daughter in marriage to a Shinaberry.



1804-1805 John Shinaberry Jr. and his wife had a daughter, Mary Catherine, most probably somewhere along the journey in PA. The 1850 Federal Census gives her birthplace as PA; her son Frederick Deal states both parents were born in PA on the 1870 Census.⁴⁵ Did the Shinaberrys meet the Deals on their journey?

Other families along the path included:

Shanabarger – George Schöenberger/Shanabarger born about 1750 who dies in Georges, Fayette County before 1830. His son William Shanabarger and wife Jane Croxton depart Virginia and settle their family around Fairchance, Fayette County at early as 1820.

Found in Washington County are the Blachleys, Paxtons, and Metcalf.

William Boyd Blachly/Blatchley had children in Washington County as early as 1798 and is found later as an Ohio neighbor with John Shinaberry. His daughter, Eleanor Blachly, married John's son John Jr. in 1822. A second daughter, Sarah, is thought to have been the second spouse of James, the son of John and Eleanor, married in 1852. In records, of Porter County, IN, James is also noted as having married a cousin of Sarah's. Electa Jane Blachly in 1846.

John Paxton died in Washington County in 1807. His son Nathaniel also becomes a neighbor with John Shinaberry in Ohio. Nathaniel's son William married John Shinaberry's daughter Rebecca in 1828.

⁴⁵ Frederick Deal married Mary Catherine Shinaberger in Richland Co. OH in 1824. His father, Christian Diehl/Deal died in College, Centre County, PA in 1805.

Vachel Metcalf and his namesakes were in Berkeley County. Vachel Jr died in Cross Creek, Washington County PA after 1800. Vachel's son Edward D. moved on to Ohio and was a neighbor to John Shinaberry Jr. Edward's great granddaughter also married a Shinabarger.⁴⁶

These are but a few of the settlers that were traveling the same path West and either by plan or coincidence, met up to become neighbors, and in-laws, with John Shinaberry.

Following recuperation time, the Shinaberry family plodded West from Pennsylvania for another 30 miles along the path of the future National Road. They crossed a narrow land-strip of what is now West Virginia before crossing the Ohio River around Wheeling. It would have been another 75 miles or so to reach Zanesville, Ohio. Zanesville, named after Ebenezer Zane the great grandfather of novelist Zane Grey, was already a thriving community that would briefly be Ohio's second state capital in 1810.

Zanesville would have been a good town for pause, possibly getting directions and advice. All would be wilderness to the north. Their route could have been through the future settlement of Utica (platted in 1815) along the Licking River (now Rte. 13). Perhaps the families continued west the 40 miles to the small existing settlement of Granville. About that time, a resident of Granville was Daniel Murdock and his wife, Mehetable. Is this where John Shinaberry Jr. met the Murdocks? Murdocks would follow the Shinaberrys north and John would marry the widow Mehetable in 1820.

When these settlers turned northeast, they had but another 45 miles to walk before reaching Mount Vernon, Knox County, Ohio. The total miles, through very rough, forested and dangerous territory, would have been over 300 miles. Here, in Mount Vernon, the family would pause.

1805 – A history written in 1863 places the family of John Shinaberry in Knox County.⁴⁷

1806 – According to early researchers, John Sr. bought a farm about one mile south of Mt. Vernon on the Columbus Road. According to the settlement of John's estate, found at Mt. Vernon, Ohio by a researcher, his wife was named Mary. No such deed has been located. John left no will.

Unfortunately, there is no record found that would prove this. However, if this could be verified, it would confirm that John Sr. and his wife, thought to be Mary Lyndon/Lantz, did accompany their sons John Jr. and Michael to Knox County. It is thought this John Sr. died about 1807 and Mary about 1825. No verification exists. According to Plat Maps, a Shinaberry farm was located in the area between Columbus and Granville roads near Parrot Road. The Bird Cemetery, oldest public cemetery in the area dating from 1823, is the location of burials for Joseph B Shinaberry and Michael Yoakum (whose daughter married Joseph's brother John). Any earlier burials of Shinaberrys or in-laws would have probably occurred on family farms. It also appears that Michael inherited his father's land as later plat maps indicate his sons and grandsons remained on this and bought additional acreage.⁴⁸

1808 - First Court of Common Pleas in Knox County - 29 day of March 1808 – Impanneled (sp) Grand Jury - Second Trial State of Ohio vs William Hedrick - indictment for stealing bay mare, property of William Wallace. Jury - John Baxter, William Herrod, William Biggs, Daniel Ayers, Nicholas Kyle,

⁴⁶ Mary Ann Metcalf married Thomas James Shinabarger, grandson of James and Elizabeth Murdock Shinabarger, in 1877.

⁴⁷ "History of Ashland County, Ohio" by George William Hill, M.D. 1863.

⁴⁸ My assumption is that Michael Shinaberry purchased the land and passed it on to his heirs. John Jr. did not purchase land until his arrival into Wayne Co.

John Shinabery, James Craig, James Smith, Thomas Merrill, Dorman Lowland, James Pell and Thompson Mills.⁴⁹

A question arises. Which John Shinaberry is this, Sr. or Jr.? In 1802 there is only ONE John Shinaberry listed as a tax payer in Berkeley County. The rest of the Shinaberrys are absent. Did John Sr. remain in Berkeley County and die there? Or did he travel west with his sons? Michael Shinaberry remains in Knox County while John disappears and is not seen in Knox County records again. If John Sr. died in 1807, then the juror was his son John Jr. Later records indicate this is John Jr. and that he has been in the county long enough to be established and met the requirements to serve in the newly formed county. (Knox was carved from Fairfield County 1 March 1808.)

1808 – April 2 Joseph Shinabarger, son of John Shinaberry and unknown spouse, is born in Ohio, county unknown.⁵⁰

1808 –Michael bought lots 201-202 from Joseph Walker 22 Oct 1808.⁵¹ There is a series of deeds and indentures in the court house at Mt. Vernon involving the family of this Michael Shinaberry. Michael's grandson John Jr. later purchased Lot 202. One of these instruments, between the heirs of Michael Shinaberry, dated 1814, names his wife Catherine, and his children: Polly, John, Nancy, Betsy, William, Liddy, Malinda, Joseph, Rebekah. Their surname was also spelled "Shinnaberry" and "Shenneberry" at times. The Shinaberry farm land was about a mile south of Mount Vernon and large acreages were purchased by his descendants around Liberty Township. This family remained in the Knox County area.

1809 - Knox Common Pleas - Fifth Term – 4-5 Sept 1809 “Letters of administration of Michael Shinabery's estate are issued to Catharine Shinabery. Gilman Bryant and George Downes, securities. John Mills, Mathew Mant, James Smith, appraisers.” Court adjourned till the next Court in course. “Eighth Term - Court of Common Pleas, estate settled 5th day of Sept 1810 Catherine Shinabery, Ex. Of M. Shinabery, dee'd” settled with the court.

1885 – Joseph Barnes Shinabery died in Mt. Liberty and was buried in the Bird Cemetery. He was “one of first settlers of this community...and funeral held at the M.E. Church.”⁵² The early ME (Methodist Episcopalian) church was an offshoot from Wesley and an early evangelical. (The first church connected with John Shinaberry Jr. appears to be Lutheran.)

⁴⁹ “History of Knox County Ohio from 1779 to 1862 Inclusive” by A Banning Norton, published 1862, pgs 35-38.

⁵⁰ All records and census indicate that Joseph was born in Ohio.

⁵¹ I believe this is the first purchase of land by any Shinaberry within Knox County. I continue to *assume* John Sr. either died in Berkeley County or on the journey west or in Ohio. He would have been about age 70 in 1805.

⁵² “Compiled Birth, Marriage and Death Records for Knox County, Ohio”

1809-1837

Exploring the area of Mount Vernon in Knox County, a question arose: “Why did so many settlers depart this area in the early 1800s”? Many pioneers appear to briefly pause in Mount Vernon before continuing north. I was told: “There wasn’t good work here as the water and good timber was north.”

I immediately thought of John Shinabarger Jr., born in 1764, who was one of those men who moved their family north into Wayne County and bought farmland and established a sawmill. “Leaving Mt. Vernon and Knox County, John and his family ultimately settled along the Jerome Fork of the Jerome River in Mohican Township, Wayne County. Around this time Jeromesville was being settled.”⁵³

“These settlers commenced improvements along the Black fork, the Clear fork, and the Rocky Fork of the Mohican, each erecting a small cabin, and clearing a few acres of ground for corn. The majority of these settlers were of German descent, and had come directly from the western counties of Pennsylvania, Virginia, Maryland and the eastern part of Ohio; and had found the way to their new homes up the branches of the Mohican, and by Indian trails...Presbyterians and German Lutherans first churches organized...Mohican surveyed 1807 among the first settled and first organized, in 1820 population was 632, by 1830 1316. Alex Finley first then few weeks later Wm and Thomas Eagle, Benj Bunn and John Shinnebarger families.”⁵⁴

Who were traveling with the Shinaberrys? “John Shinabarger emigrated from Virginia in 1802, to Pennsylvania, from thence to Mount Vernon, Knox Co. Ohio in 1805 and in 1810 from the last-named place to Mohican Township, Ashland Co., Ohio...Entered southwest quarter of section 23 in said township. This quarter he partly cleared, and erected there a sawmill and resided until his death, 7 March 1837, aged 74 years. When he removed to Mohican Township, his wife and seven children constituted his family, the only survivor of whom, residing in Ashland County, is James S. Shinabarger, of Perry Township.”⁵⁵

“One of the first white settlers to enter the Mohican Township area was Alexander Finley and his family who came from Mt. Vernon OH. Finley landed on the west bank of the Lake Fork of the Mohican River, or what was called Tylertown, on 17 April 1809...Within a few weeks...John Shinabarger and his family joined Finley. John had a strong cabin with portholes that was located one mile northwest of Tylerville (Lake Fork), a location that probably became the southwest quarter of Section 23 where he located his home and erected a sawmill.”⁵⁶

Lake Fort Post Office was the original site of what later became Tylertown which was located at the junction of Routes 95 and 175.

⁵³ "History of Ashland County, Ohio" by George William Hill, M.D. 1863.

⁵⁴ "History of Ashland County, Ohio" by Abraham J. Baughman, published 1909. Page 48.

⁵⁵ "A History of the Pioneer and Modern Times of Ashland County" by Horace S Knapp, published 1863. Knapp interview James Shinabarger for this information.

⁵⁶ "History of Ashland County, Ohio" by George William Hill, M.D. 1863.



John's 160-acre farm was just west of the Jerome and Muddy forks as it joined Lake Fork and the Mohican River near the present-day cross roads of County Road 175 and Township Road 75 (in the vicinity of the Lake Fork Cemetery). Many early settlers were of German descent and had come directly from the western counties of PA and VA and found their way to the Mohican River by Indian trails. In 1810 the census gave the number of heads of families in the Mohican Township at 46. John Shinaberry was one of the 46.

1808 - 4 Jul - Alex Findley of Knox Co. purchased NE art sec 26, 21, 15, total 160 acres.

1809 - 23 August - US to John Sheneberry Land Patent for SW1/4, 160a. John and Benjamin Bunn purchased this land for \$320 before moving into Knox County. SW Section 23, township 21 Range 15, 160 acres; Benj Bunn of Fairfield Co. 17 Aug 1808 and John Shinaberry Knox County 23 Aug 1809.

Bunn reverted land back to the Land Bureau and then John Shinaberry purchased it. \$358.38. (It is records like this that confirm the John Shinaberry in Knox County is the same man who later moved to Wayne County.)⁵⁷

Dr. *Benjamin Franklin* For *SW* sect. *N-23* Township *N-23* of range *N-15* cone *16* acres, at *28* per acre, Cr.

		Sh. of Acres	Total Acres	Dollars	Cts.
<i>1812</i>	<i>July 17</i>				
	To amount of purchase money of said $\frac{1}{4}$ sect.	<i>5</i>		<i>320</i>	

Dr. In *Thennelberg, Knox Co Ohio SW 23*

<i>1813</i>	<i>Nov 23</i>	To amt. of purchase money of said $\frac{1}{4}$ sect.	<i>29</i>	<i>320</i>	
		To amount of interest on said $\frac{1}{4}$ sect.		<i>88 33</i>	

Benjamin Franklin
Jan 1 1816
Interest on said $\frac{1}{4}$ sect. 1816

Gr *368 33*

1813 *July 17*

By amount of deposit.

By receipt of first installment.

Amount of first installment.

Dollars	Cts.	Sh. of Acres	Total Acres	Dollars	Cts.
<i>16</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>28</i>			

Received of the U.S. for the

Township N-23 Range N-15 cont'd 160 A-223 33

<i>1814</i>	<i>Aug 24</i>	By Cash on full of 1st	<i>263 66</i>	<i>80</i>	
<i>1815</i>	<i>Aug 23</i>	By Cash on full of 2nd	<i>263 66</i>	<i>80</i>	
		Interest thereon by 1st		<i>36 19</i>	
<i>1816</i>	<i>Aug 23</i>	By Cash on full of 3rd	<i>263 66</i>	<i>80</i>	
		Interest thereon by 1st		<i>36 19</i>	

Gr *368 33*

Gr. S. E

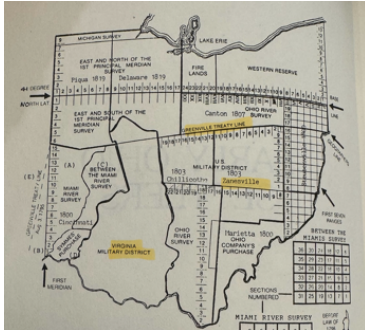
According to an early Plat Map of this section of land, John Shinaberry's early neighbors and year of arrival were: Alex Finley 1808, Vachel Metcalf 1809, Thomas Oram 1810, Thomas Eagle 1810, Benjamin Bunn 1809, James Murdock 1815, Jacob Lyberger 1811, John Eagle 1811, John Heller 1814.

Other land deeds are listed in the US Bureau of Land Management Tract Books concerning John Shinabarger and his neighbors. Early grants helpfully named the purchaser's county and state of residence at time of sale: Aaron Beard of Niagara Co. NY; Edmond Ingman of Fairfield Co. OH; Edward Metcalf of Washington Co. PA; John Metcalf of Starke Co. OH; Vachel Metcalf of Washington Co. then Fairfield Co. OH (Fairfield formed from Washington in 1800); Jacob Lyberger of Knox Co.

⁵⁷ “United States Bureau of Land Management Tract Books, 1800-c. 1955. Tract Book Ohio Wooster Vol 6” pg 103/1528

OH; George Ensminger of Somerset Co. PA; Alex Findley of Knox Co. OH; Benj Bunn of Fairfield Col OH.⁵⁸

Washington County organized 27 June 1788 > Fairfield County organized from Washington and Ross counties 9 Dec 1800 > Knox County organized out of Fairfield County 1 Mar 1808.



The area settled in Wayne County is located in the U.S. Military District. Examining a map of the area, Mohican Township could have been above or below the Greenville Treaty Line of 1795, created following “Mad Anthony” Wayne’s defeat of the Native Americans at Fallen Timbers.⁵⁹ The Treaty Line began around Cleveland and flowed south to Fort Laurens below Canton, Ohio then southwest to present-day Fort Loramie. Following what would later become Rte. 30, the line could have cut thru Jeromeville or the line could have cut directly below Mohicanville.

It was common that settlers would work the land and build a home before traveling into the county recording office in Wooster, some 12 miles and a day’s travel away. It is known that John made several of these trips as he filed patents on land bought and sold within Wayne County.

1811 – Rebecca, eighth child and daughter of John and his spouse is born 2 Jan in Mohican, Wayne, Ohio. It is *assumed* her mother and John’s spouse died shortly after her birth.

The eight children of John and his unknown spouse were now complete: Jacob about 1794 VA, Susanna about 1795 VA, John Jr. 1799 VA, James 1801 VA, Mary Catherine 1801 PA, Joseph 1808 OH, Nancy 1810 OH, and Rebecca 1811 OH.

Date	Description	Amount
1814 June 30	to cash deposited	165 100
1816 June 16	to cash deposited	154 74
1821 Aug 21	to cash deposited	100 00
	Total	320 00

John Shinaberry
Wayne County, Oh.
cert days alias Shinabarger
1814 June 30 to amt of purchase money 160 - 320
to balance of purchase money
of by J. Shinaberry
final cert n. 42
Patent dated 15 May 1823

1814 - 30 June 1814 - John Shinaberry, refers to as “*alias Shinabarger*,” for 6-16-1814. Wayne Co. Wooster Land Offices, Patent dated 16 May 1823; Wayne Co. payment 15 Jun 1816; by sale of public lands for the NE Corner 24,23,15 dated 21 Aug 1821.⁶⁰

⁵⁸ “United States Bureau of Land Management Tract Books, 1800-c. 1955. Tract Book Ohio Wooster Vol 6.”

⁵⁹ I have seen no record that any Shinaberry fought alongside General Wayne.

⁶⁰ “United States Bureau of Land Management Tract Books, 1800-c. 1955. Tract Book Ohio Wooster Vol” Page 1674.

Dr. John Shinnelburg		For		Section No. 2		of township No. 22 of range No. 15 containing 160 acres, at \$2 per acre, C.F.	
Wayne Co. Ill.		No. of Ac't.	No. of Rec't.	Dollars.	Cts.		
Shinnelburg						Dollars.	Cts.
1894 June 16	To amount of purchase money of said	164	320				
1895 June 2	2 interest		19	01			
1895 July 10	2 "			33			
1895 Aug 28	For the credit Dec 59	64	3				
1895 Dec 1	2 interest		30	98			
1895 Aug 13	2 ditto			25			
2: p 378	2 Conty Feb 2						
Paid dat 4 Augt 1894							
				\$ 370	57		

		No. of Ac't.	No. of Rec't.	Dollars.	Cts.
1894 June 16	By amount of deposit,				
	By residuary of first instalment,				
By Amount of first instalment,		164	358	80	00
1896 May 27th	By cash in full of 2nd instalment	212	3250	79	65
1898 June 28	By cash in full of 3rd instalment	231	3750	46	75
1898 July 16	By Amount of balance of 2nd	250	3977	52	59
1892 Dec 1	By Cash & interest on account	279	16583	91	20
1892 Aug. 3	By Cash in full	12	52		
	Ded. 2 1/2 p. Ct	7.50	11	366	2 00 3
				\$ 370	57

It wasn't until 1846 that Ashland County was carved from Wayne County; townships of Jackson, Perry and Mohican and its southern neighbor Lake were included in this new county. The exception was an eastern line called the "one-mile strip" which was not given to Ashland Co. (one section north to south) but stayed with Wayne Co. John Shinaberry lived and farmed in the same general area even though the names of the counties and townships changed. Much of the confusion over the location of John's land can be attributed to these changes in boundaries. John bought several sections of land in Wayne Co. and these eventually become the individual farms of his sons in Perry, Jackson and Mohican townships. John Shinaberry's farm was located in this "one-mile strip" but he died before Ashland County was created

The State of Ohio, Wayne County, I hereby certify that on the Day
of March I joined together in the holy state of an extremely solemn and
most edifying marriage of Isaac and Eliza under my hand and seal
the 27 day of March 1821. Meab Whitford, R. E. S.

⁶² Early researchers, because of the presence of more than one John, preferred to refer to John as “Ashland John” even though he never lived in Ashland County.

years of confusion that this was a marriage of his son John Jr. DNA has proven that Mehetable Crofoot Murdock was NOT the mother of John Shinaberry's children. I repeat, SHE WAS NOT their mother.

1820 - Federal Census – Mohican Township, Wayne Co taken on Aug 7 -. shows John “Shinneberry” and *assuming* Mehetable. In the home is a male under 10 (Sylvester Murdock), one 10-15 (Joseph C.), 2 males 16-25 (James Sherman and John Jr.) and a male over 45 (John Sr.), 1 female under 10 (Rebecca), 2 females 10-15 (Nancy and Mary), one female 16-25 (unknown) and one female over 45 (Mehetable). As yet, most of the children are at home with John and Mehetable. Jacob Shinabarger is married to Hannah Heller and found in Jackson Twp., farming on one of the sections of land purchased by his father John (he is listed as a “Shellenbarger”).

1825 – Most references after this date to John and his sons are as Shinabarger or a variation of that spelling.

1830 Ohio Federal Census - John Sr. Shinabrger in Mohican Twp., Jacob and John Jr. Shinaberry in Jackson Twp., James Shinabarger in Perry Twp. Joseph is at home with his father.

1835 – Early Land Records: John's son, John Shinabarger (born 1799), purchased 200 acres of land in Porter Co. Indiana.⁶³

1836 – Jacob Shinabarger bought property in Marshall Co. Indiana. Wife Hannah's obituary reflects they moved to Marshall County in 1837. Jacob, resident of La Porte Co. Indiana, purchased land warrant on 7 June 1836.

1836 – The 29th day of August, John Shinabarger made out his Will. He states “my children having all received prior to the date hereof all the legacy for them and each of them.” John retains “about fifteen acres running east and west” through southwest quarter of Section 23 of Township 21 and Range 15. The land bordering the north belongs to Jacob Shinabarger, and James Huff owns the land to the south. (According to the 1861 Ashland County Plat Map, there are three farms of land carved out of John's original 160 Acres. Two are 53 acres and the southern part is 56 acres and holds the W.S. Mill.). It is not clear what he gave to his daughters. However, deeds and statements in the Will reflect 1) Jacob owned the approximately 90 acres of land to the north of his property “which I formerly deeded to Jacob”; 2) in 1824 John Jr. was deeded the 160 acres of land in Jackson Township; 3) James S. has his land in Perry Township; 4) and legacy of fourth son Joseph is the land from John deeded to him in about 1832. His four sons are well taken care of as is his wife Mehetable. John appoints Henry Bevans and Edmund Ingmund sole executors. Witnessed by Thomas Newman and James Huff. (Henry Bivins is a nearby neighbor, Ingmand lives further away.)

John Shinabarger's neighbor James Huff witnesses John's Will. Further, John states that James Huff owns the land to the south and for the rest of Mehetable's life she is to receive one-fourth of the produce from this land “formerly conveyed by me to James Huff” in 1833. This may be the section of land where the sawmill is located. Huff along with Elijah Yocum and Edmond Ingmand post \$1200 bond for Ingmand to be executor of the estate after John's death.

James Huff keeps popping up in the life of John. James Huff is his son-in-law. He married Sibbel/Libble Ann Murdock the daughter of Mehetable Crofoot Murdock Shinabarger in 1824. Huff's brother-in-law was John's son James who married another of Mehetable's daughters, Elizabeth

⁶³ Early Land Records, Porter County Court House.

Murdock in 1825. James Huff and Sibble remained in Mohican Township and had 7 children; it is there that Sibble died in 1854. James Huff and children moved to Kosciusko Co. IN by 1860. James Shinabarger is the last of his family to depart Wayne County and also enters Kosciusko Co. Indiana by 1865.

1837 – John Shinabarger dies 7 March in Mohican Twp, Wayne Co. John's Will is probated 10 March and the estate presented to court on 29 March 1837. At that time, the only sons residing in Wayne Co. are James in Perry Township and Joseph in Mohican Township just north of his father's Homestead. His son-in-law James Huff is also living there. John's Will was signed 29 Aug 1836, presented 10th of March and estate probated 29 March 1837, Wooster, Ohio.)

John was buried at the Mount Zion Cemetery, Lucas, Richland County, about 12 miles southwest of his farm. This is the same cemetery where more than 20 Shanabargers are buried in the rows directly behind John (in Row#1). There is no record of his first spouse's burial. The stones are broken or non-existent.

Mount Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church was established about 1812. "It is believed the first organization was effected, and first meetings held in the house of Michael Shinnebarger...first members were Michael Shinnebarger and wife, Michael Culler, Jacob Koogle, Adam Winger and wife, Gerhart Sheets...John Ernsberger, Henry Smith, the Messrs. Keifers...."⁶⁴ Michael donated the land for the church and school and his son-in-law David Shuh⁶⁵ was first minister of Mt. Zion. The Shanabarger home was also used as a stockade for the settlers one winter during an Indian uprising. The earliest Shanabarger buried in the cemetery is thought to be Christina Shanabarger Koogle in 1824 and her brother George in 1827.

It may be that this Michael Shanabarger Jr. born in 1770 did not arrive into Wayne County at the same time as John Shinaberry Jr. It is *assumed* that Michael is the 1C of John. Michael Sr. died in Middletown, Frederick Co. MD 14 June 1813. Michael Jr. born 12 Mar 1770 appears to be the Michael Shineberger living in Jefferson County, VA in 1810. The census for that year lists: Michael Shineberger with 3 males under 10 (Peter, George and Henry), 2 males 10-15 (Jacob and John), and male over 45 (Michael), 4 females under 10 (Barbara, Christina, Mary, Elizabeth), 1 10-15 (Catherine), 1 female 26-44 (Anna Maria). Michael's oldest daughter Anna was born in Frederick County MD in 1814 and the older children in Harper's Ferry, Jefferson Co. Virginia. More detail on this family is found in ["Connecting Families of the Dozen Ss."](#)

For a much more detailed Shinabarger Family History of John Shinabarger, I refer you to ["Second Generation – John Shinabarger "Ashland John" 1764-1837"](#) Last updated in May 2020, this chapter covers John's life as I knew it at that time. Through research and exploration, more has been learned and confirmed.

John Shinaberry/Shinabarger's children were Jacob, Susanna, John Jr., James, Mary Catherine, Joseph, Nancy and Rebecca. Following the general naming patterns practiced by German immigrants, these children may be clues to their mother's name. Usually, a 1st son was named after the father's father, a

⁶⁴ "History of Richland County, Ohio, 1807-1880" by A. A. Graham.

⁶⁵ For further reference see page 7: David Shuh was in Middleton, Washington County MD with Michael Schöneberger in 1750. Michael's daughter Elizabeth married David. David is the minister who married two of John's Shinabarger's children in 1824 & 1825. This helps to confirm that John was connected to Mt. Zion Church and quite possibly his first wife is also buried there.

2nd son after the mother's father, the 3rd son after the father or father's oldest brother, and the 4th son after the father's paternal grandfather or after the father.

When it came to daughters, the general pattern was the 1st daughter was named after the mother's mother, a 2nd daughter after the father's mother, a 3rd daughter after the mother, and the 4th daughter after the paternal grandfather's mother.

Susanna and Mary Catherine were ubiquitous names as were John and Jacob. However, I have always thought Nancy and Rebecca as somewhat usual. Rebecca is not often seen in the descendants. Nancy is seen as the first daughter of Joseph Shinabarger. Nancy names her first daughter Rebecca and her sister Rebecca names her first daughter Nancy. Are these clues? Joseph, Nancy and Rebecca were young when their mother died and for them Mehetable would have been the mother who raised them into adulthood.

1837-Present

1839 Sept 30 - Shinnabarger Mehetable no husb nd to James Huff, W 30 Sept 1839, \$150, pt SW1/4, except a saw mill 58p & 2' of land sold to Thomas A. Eagle, 25 Jan 1855, 10-399.⁶⁶

1848 Aug 21 - Eagle Wm. wf Rachel to Phebe Tupper, W 21 Aug 1848, \$720, 42a, also all the tract or parcel of land belonging to the said Eagle purchased from Mehitable Shinnabarger willed to her by John Shinnabarger, 8 acres, lying on the N & W side of the Co. Rd. running E & W through Sec. (23), 10 Sept 1850, 5-315.⁶⁷

1849 - Mehetable died 2 Nov 1849 and is buried in the Attica Venice Township Joint Cemetery in Attica, Seneca Co., OH. It is unknown why she was in Attica at that time and if other relatives lived there. One theory is her children had all moved from Wayne County except step-sons James (her son-in-law) and Joseph Shinabarger. Son-in-law James Huff also resided in Mohican Township even though his wife, Mehetable's daughter Sibbel, had died in 1824.

1854 - A final disposition of Shinabarger land occurred 1854 Oct 7 when Huff James no wf to Stephen A. Taylor, W 7 Oct 1854, \$1800, pt SW1/4, 57a, except a saw mill & 58p \$ 2' of land, 15 Dec 1854, 10-311 & 312.

A short summary of the children of John Shinabarger and unknown spouse:

Jacob Shinabarger was born about 1794 Virginia⁶⁸ and died 1845 Porter County, Indiana. Married Hannah Heller 4 Feb 1817 in Wayne Co. OH. Jacob moved to Indiana around 1833. His descendants mostly remained in the Porter and La Porte counties of Indiana. For family history on Jacob, refer to "[Third Generation Jacob Shinabarger – Early Hoosier 1794-1845](#)." For his succeeding generations there are the history reports: "[Fourth Generation Simon Peter Shinabarger -Spreading Roots 1821-1902](#)" and "[Fifth Generation Ernest Franklin Shinabarger – Moving West 1860-1916](#)" and "[Sixth Generation Riley Earnest Shinabarger – Grandpa 1886-1966](#)."

Susanna Shinabarger was born 1795 in Virginia. She died 17 Oct 1874 in Ossian, Winneshiek County, Iowa. Susanna married Abraham Blue 8 Feb 1816 in Wayne County, OH. He was the son of Frederick Blue and directly related to the Blue family what lived in Berkeley County, Virginia at the time of John Shinaberry Sr.

John Shinabarger Jr. was born 1 Apr 1799 in Virginia. He died 26 Nov 1872 in Center Township, Porter County, Indiana. He married Eleanor Blachly, daughter of Dr. William Boyd Blachly whose family founded Blachleyville, Wayne County, OH around 1833.⁶⁹ The Blachlys also moved through Washington County PA before settling in Ohio. In 1835 he purchased land in Porter Co. IN and in 1836 opened a tavern there in Washington Township. John and Eleanor are buried in the Blachly Cemetery in Valparaiso, Porter County, Indiana. Many of their children moved further west to settle around Maryville, Nodaway County, Missouri.

⁶⁶ "Early Land Records of Wayne County, Ohio now Ashland"

⁶⁷ Ibid

⁶⁸ It is an *assumption* that all of the children born in Virginia were born and some married in Berkeley County where John Sr. was living at least from 1785 until 1802.

⁶⁹ The descendants who remained in Ohio generally kept the spelling Blachley while those in Indiana dropped the 'e'.

James Shinabarger was born 24 Aug 1801 in Virginia and died 30 Dec 1876 in Silver Lake, Kosciusko County, IN. He married Elizabeth Murdock, daughter of Mehetable Crofoot and Daniel Murdock, on 15 Dec 1825 in Wayne County, OH. The 1850 Federal Census Mohican, Wayne, OH lists James Shinabarger and Elizabeth Murdock. In 1860, James is farming in Rowsburg, Perry, Ashland County. James and family are in Kosciusko Co. by 1865. Both James and Elizabeth are buried in Lakeview Cemetery in Kosciusko County, IN. Mehetable's daughter and Elizabeth's sister, Sibbel, married James Huff. She died in 1854 and was buried in Pleasant View Cemetery in Plain, Wayne County, OH while her surviving spouse James Huff died in 1864 and was also buried in Kosciusko County at Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

Mary Catherine Shinabarger was born about 1805 in Pennsylvania, probably on her family's journey from Berkeley County to Ohio. Catherine died after 1850 in Ashland County, Ohio (Ashland was carved from Wayne Co. in 1846 so she could have been near her father's farm). Catherine "Shinaberger" was married to Frederick Deal 8 Jan 1824 in Richland County, Ohio. The marriage was performed by Rev. David Shuh (who also married her brother James Shinabarger in 1825.) It is *assumed* these marriages occurred at the Mt. Zion Lutheran Church in Lucas, Richland, Ohio.⁷⁰ Frederick, the son of Christian Diehl/Deal, was born 9 Aug 1772 in Pennsylvania and died Nov 1835 and is buried in Koogle Cemetery, Mifflin, Richland, Ohio. Catherine Shinabarger Deal, age 57 born PA, can be found in the 1850 Mifflin, Ashland, Ohio Federal Census with her son Frederick age 22 and his twin sister Catherine.⁷¹

Joseph Shinabarger was born 2 April 1808 in Ohio (either Knox or Wayne County). He died 12 Dec 1882 in Porter County, IN. He married Mary "Polly" Parr, daughter of John Parr, on 6 Jan 1831 in Franklin Township, Wayne County, Ohio. 1840 Joseph Shinabarger is found in the Federal Census for Hanover, Richland, OH (later to become part of Ashland Co. when it formed in 1846). 1848-1849 the family moved to Porter County, IN where they settled into Washington Twp. and later moved to Porter Twp south of Valparaiso. While a couple children remained in Indiana, other children moved into Illinois, Iowa, Washington.

Nancy Shinabarger was born May 1810 in Wayne County and died 13 Nov 1865 in Marysville, Yuba County, California where she is buried in the Marysville Cemetery. On 5 April 1832 in Wayne County, Ohio she married Michael Treace. The Treace family appear for the first time in Marysville in 1860. Nancy's daughter Rebecca Treace Schuyler Johnson erected the shared grave stone where her first husband Kline Schuyler, their 2 infant sons, and mother Nancy are buried. On the stone is engraved "Native of Fairfax Co. VA." Unknown if Nancy named her first daughter Rebecca after her mother or her sister.

This reference to being a native of Fairfax County, Virginia warrants further searching! It remains unconfirmed if this is true as I have, as yet, found no reference to John Shinaberry/Shinabarger being in Fairfax County. However, it cannot be ruled out that perhaps John was in Fairfax before moving into Berkeley County around 1782. The Shinaberry's could have traveled the 90 miles north to pass through Middletown, Frederick County, Maryland before crossing the Potomac River into Back Creek in Berkeley County. This scenario warrants more investigation.

Rebecca Shinabarger is the eighth and final child of John Shinabarger and his first spouse. She was born 2 Jan 1811 in Mohican, Wayne, Ohio. Did her mother die in childbirth? Mrs. Shinabarger would

⁷⁰ Mt. Zion Lutheran Church and adjoining cemetery may be located in another county but was geographically close to the farm of John Shinabarger. John's farm wagon would travel about 14 miles to attend services.

⁷¹ In the 1880 Federal Census, once again Frederick Deal states both his parents were born in PA.

have been about 41 years old in 1811. Rebecca died 24 Apr 1893 in Hickory County, Missouri. She married William Paxton in 1828 Wayne County, OH. William was born 1807 in Washington County, PA, the son of Nathaniel Paxton. Rebecca and William Paxton and children moved first to Hickory County, MO about 1834 then to Benton County, MO by 1850 and back to Hickory MO for the 1860 Federal Census. Rebecca named her first daughter Nancy in 1838. It is unknown if she is named for her mother or her sister.

Additionally, there is the “[Shinabarger Family History Book – 2018](#)” based on the original family sheets and letters of the early researchers of my mother’s era. I no longer update this book but it may be a good reference for surnames and hints.

Compiled this 30th day of June, 2024

Patricia Bunyard

patbunyard@charter.net

Family History Research, Ancestry, Chronicles and DNA Research posted to share at

<http://patbunyard.org/>

Ancestry family tree: Shinabarger Family Tree (Patricia Bunyard)

Bloodline: John Sr. ca 1735> John Jr. 1764>Jacob 1794> Simon Peter 1821> Ernest 1860> Riley 1886>Vera

Kipp Shinabarger

kshinabarger@gmail.com

Ancestry family tree: Shinabarger Family Tree (Kipp)

Bloodline: John Sr. ca 1735> John Jr. 1764>Jacob 1794> Simon Peter 1821> Ernest 1860> Riley 1886>Keith

Good genealogy research is a conjunction of many types of records and DNA that together reinforce a pedigree which continuously tests any assumptions.

SOURCES

The books read, scanned and researched are too numerous to list. In spite of an attempt to be thorough, I tend to research by the rule that one misses items. Also, new facts and surnames arise. I see no danger in further re-searching the same book.

The genealogy rooms of the following libraries were personally visited are many, some more than once over the last decade. Many of these libraries were searched and re-searched by Dozen Ss researchers over 50 years ago, including the Newberry Library in Chicago, Illinois. Some libraries are better than others. All were helpful with providing county histories, family histories, censuses, and countless books and papers. One cannot read or cover it all. Thus, research continues.

Indiana

Valparaiso Public Library, 103 Jefferson Street, Valparaiso, Porter County, Indiana
La Porte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Avenue, La Porte, La Porte County, Indiana
Indiana State Library, 315 W. Ohio St., Indianapolis, Indiana
Allen County Public Library, 900 Library Plaza, Fort Wayne, Indiana

Maryland

C. Burr Artz Public Library Maryland Room, 110 E Patrick St, Frederick, Frederick County, Maryland
Washington County Historical Society, 135 W Washington St, Hagerstown, Washington County, Maryland
Middletown Public Library, 101 Prospect St, Middletown, Frederick County, Maryland

Ohio

Mt. Vernon Public Library, 201 N Mulberry St, Mt Vernon, Ohio. (Christie, thank you)
Ohio Genealogical Society, 611 State Rte. 97 W, Bellville, Ohio
Ashland County Public Library, 224 Claremont Avenue, Ashland, Ashland County, Ohio
Wayne County Public Library. 220 W Liberty Street, Wooster, Wayne County, Ohio
Seneca East Public Library, 14 N. Main Street, Attica, Seneca County, Ohio
Williams County Public Library, Bryan Branch, 107. East High Street, Bryan, Williams County, Ohio

Pennsylvania

Citizens Library, 555 College St., Washington, Washington County, Pennsylvania
Uniontown Public Library, 24 Jefferson St, Uniontown, Fayette County, Pennsylvania
Lancaster County Historical Society, 230 N President Ave, Lancaster, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania
Lancaster Public Library, 151 N. Queen Street, Lancaster, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania
Lititz Public Library, 651 Kissel Hill Road, Lititz, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania
York County History Center, 250 E Market St, York, York County, Pennsylvania

Virginia

Handley Library and Stewart Bell Archives Room, 100 W Piccadilly St, Winchester, Frederick County, Virginia
City of Fairfax Regional Library, Virginia Room, 10360 North St, Fairfax, Fairfax County, Virginia
Wythe County Genealogical and Historical Association, 165 S. 11th Street, Wytheville, Wythe County, Virginia

Historical Society of Washington County, Virginia, 341 W Main St at Russell, Abingdon, Washington County, Virginia
Highland County Public Library, 31 N. Water Street, Monterey, Highland County, Virginia
Augusta County Library, 1759 Jefferson Highway, Fishersville, Augusta County, Virginia

West Virginia

Martinsburg Berkeley Public Library, 101 W King St, Martinsburg, West Virginia
McClintic Library, 500 8th Street Marlinton, Pocahontas County, West Virginia
Pocahontas County Historical Society, in the historic Hunter House on US Route 219, 17890 Seneca Trail, Marlinton, Pocahontas County, West Virginia
Pendleton County Library, 256 N Main, Franklin, Pendleton County, West Virginia

We tried not to miss walking the local cemeteries. It is an excellent way to connect family surnames.